

THE federal farm loan board should have seen how 200,000 Kansans flocked to Topeka during the fair last week.

HOME EDITION

REPRESENTATIVES OF 300,000 KANSAS FARMERS HERE FOR CAUSE OF TOPEKA IN PLEA FOR LOCATION FEDERAL LOAN BANK

Capital City Gives Proof of Advantages to U. S. Board.

Clinching Arguments Before Washington Investigators.

30 MILLION A YEAR IN TOPEKA

Bank in Topeka Would Pay Government, Says Speaker.

Every Necessity for Establishment Is Brought Out Here.

KANSAS CITY IN PLEA, TOO

Boosters From Missouri Would Locate Institution There.

Secretary McAdoo Will Be in Topeka This Evening.

Representatives of 300,000 Kansas farmers, already banded together in co-operative societies needed for the exploitation of farm loan banks, pleaded today with the national farm loan board for the location of a farm loan bank in the capital city of Kansas. It was a series of clinching arguments presented to the board this morning in the United States court room in the federal building by Maurice McAuliffe, president of the Farmers Union, A. F. Reardon, president of the Kansas Grange association, Alfred Docking, lecturer for the Kansas Grange, E. C. Johnson of the extension department of the State Agricultural college and Charles Dillon, managing editor of the Capper farm paper.

The board announced that the decision of the farmers, the atmosphere surrounding the cities and the railroad facilities of the cities would be the chief factors in deciding upon a location. Topeka gave them proof of possession of these three factors in huge bulk.

Kansas City Hearing.
The meeting opened promptly at 10 o'clock. A bunch of representatives from the Kansas side of Kansas City, Mo., appeared to present the town's claims. They were heard at 2 o'clock this afternoon and following their hearing the Topeka hearing was resumed.

Wichita, In Too.
It was rumored that Wichita is going to put her fingers in the pie and will appear at the Kansas City meeting. Members of the board know nothing of such a plan but expressed a willingness to hear the arguments of any city which desires to be considered. The court room was filled by 9 o'clock.

Topeka as Center.
It was pointed out that Topeka is the home of all big conventions of farmers, where the farmers cannot place of any other city in the United States. "Place the pin on Topeka and you will find her in the center of any district including Missouri, or Nebraska, or Oklahoma, or Colorado," said McAuliffe. "Further, it was pointed out that through the medium of Topeka's farm papers with a circulation larger than those of any other farm paper in the United States, the location of a bank in Topeka will act as a publicity, educational medium for more than a million farmers in Oklahoma, Missouri, Kansas and Colorado. This point was one of the most strongly emphasized by all speakers.

Thirty Millions a Year.
"I believe," said Maurice McAuliffe, "that if the bank is located in Topeka it can do a business of thirty million dollars within a year."

Mr. McAuliffe showed that the Kansas farmers already are operating, have understood that act for years and with Topeka and Kansas as a nucleus for this district, the co-operation necessary will bring about the success of the rural credits bill in Kansas more rapidly than in any state in the middle west. He told the board that the organization which has been formed, 31,000 farm families in Kansas, divided into 450 co-operative organizations existing in fifty-four counties in the state.

Agricultural Center.
"This," said Alfred Docking, "is the day of joining. Kansas farmers have been doing it for years. Topeka is probably the greatest agricultural center in the United States and is the center for the annual meetings of the farmers. Take into con-

TOPEKA'S GUEST TODAY



William G. McAdoo, Secretary of Federal Treasury.

sideration, gentlemen, that Kansas is strictly an agricultural state, one in which there is little industrial life, and the best state in the union in which to launch and intensify the theory of the rural credits bill. Topeka, as the agricultural center, is the strategic center for such an undertaking. My one regret is that one of our big meetings is not in progress and you cannot have an opportunity to see the magnitude of the farmer's organizations."

Reardon Answers Questions.
A. F. Reardon, president of the Farmers' group, answered a series of questions.

"Do you think of the class of big tenant farmers would build up their farms better if they own their land?" "Yes, sir. Thirty per cent of the farmers own part of their land and rent a nearby acreage. They will purchase it as a result of the provisions of the new bill."

"Has the rate prevailing on purchases in past years deterred purchase of farms?" "Yes, sir, it has."

"What is the average life of a mortgage in this state?" "From one to five years."

"Will the long time mortgage possible under this bill aid the farmers?" "Yes, sir."

In addition to his other arguments, Mr. McAuliffe stated that Kansas farmers are in a better position for handling the details of the farm loan bank because a large per cent of them already belong to farm loan associations and can use the new bill more intelligently.

"Will land owners sell on the terms provided in the rural credits bill?" "Yes, sir," he replied. "One reason for this is the labor problem which is growing more complex each year and the old farmers, like myself, will sell rather than trust to the sort of labor we are able to get. The young farmers are about the only people who will work the land now and they wish to purchase it here in Kansas. If the proper terms can be obtained on mortgages."

Railway Facilities.
When it comes to railroad facilities into Topeka there can't be any argument against locating the bank here. Following is a table prepared and submitted to the board:

Mail Trains.
(Number of mail trains at Topeka, 54. Time for mail to reach Topeka after 3 o'clock.)
St. Louis, 11 hours, 15 minutes.
St. Joseph, 2 hours.
Omaha, 11 hours.
Alliance, Neb., 20 hours.
Grand Junction, Colo., 27 hours.
Leadville, Colo., 23 hours, 30 minutes.
La Junta, Colo., 12 hours.
Arlmore, Okla., 17 hours.
Muskogee, Okla., 12 hours.
Oklahoma City, 11 hours.
Wichita, Kan., 6 hours.
Hutchinson, Kan., 4 hours, 30 minutes.

BLACKMAILERS GANG OF SIXTY GET \$1,000,000

Two Confess to Federal Sleuths of Crime Syndicate.

Division of Spoils Resulted in Arrest of Eight.

WOMEN LURE RICH MEN

Got "White Slave" Evidence on Millionaire.

Compel Woman to Hush Up Scandal With \$35,000.

Chicago, Sept. 18.—Confession has been made by two members of the alleged syndicate of blackmailers, eight of whom are under arrest here, that operations of the syndicate have netted them \$1,000,000 within the last year, federal officials announced today.

The confession, it was said, disclosed that the alleged band numbers sixty people, a third of them women. A dispute over the division of spoils, it was said, led to the confession. Arrests of a score or more members of the syndicate are expected within a week.

The men who confessed are "Dick" Barrett and Edward J. Thompson, according to Hinton G. Clabaugh, head of the Chicago bureau of the federal department of justice. Both are at liberty, he said. They will become witnesses for the government, however, when the eight members of the alleged syndicate are arrested in a raid on a fashionable apartment hotel Saturday night are brought to trial.

Fear that they would receive long prison sentences, Clabaugh said. Barrett and Thompson confessed, Clabaugh said. Barrett, aggregating \$100,000, has been fixed for the eight members of the alleged band now under arrest. They are to be given a hearing tomorrow. Those under arrest and the bail they will be required to give are:

Edward Donahue, alias "Doc" Donahue, \$25,000.
Mrs. Helen Evers, alias Mrs. George W. Evers, \$25,000.
Henry Russell, alias H. J. Russell, \$25,000.
Mrs. Edward Donahue, \$5,000.
James Christian, alias James Christian, \$5,000.
George Bland, alias Joseph Pearl, \$5,000.

Frank Crocker, \$5,000.
Mrs. Frances Allen, alias Mrs. Frances Chapman, \$5,000.
Elmer Peterson, \$5,000.
Expensive gowns and costly furs and jewelry were found in the elegantly furnished apartment in which the arrests were made. A safe of clothes hung in the closet of Henry Russell. A mass of incriminating evidence—letters, photographs and other papers—were found, officials said.

The operations of the band are declared to have extended from coast to coast. Men and women alike have been victims. Persons of wealth were the objects in every case. Five of the Chicago arrests are declared to have been blackmailed out of \$20,000. Their names were withheld. Persons also are named who are fleeing from Chicago to other cities. One in New York, Baltimore and Philadelphia. Only three victims of the syndicate have declared themselves ready to face the publicity and testify in the case, Mr. Clabaugh said. One of those ready is Mrs. Regina Clippel of Philadelphia.

The five men under arrest declined to discuss the charges against them. The three women, however, ridiculed the charges.

Use Code Systems.
Chicago, Sept. 18.—Further arrests were expected today in connection with the so-called blackmail syndicate. (Continued on Page Two.)

FLYERS IN CHARGE

Twenty Airships Led French Troops in Fierce Attack.

Panic Among the Germans When Machines Were Seen.

Paris, Sept. 18.—For the first time in the history of the world, the French used an airplane squadron to lead the successful attack on some villages of Bouchevaines, north of the Somme.

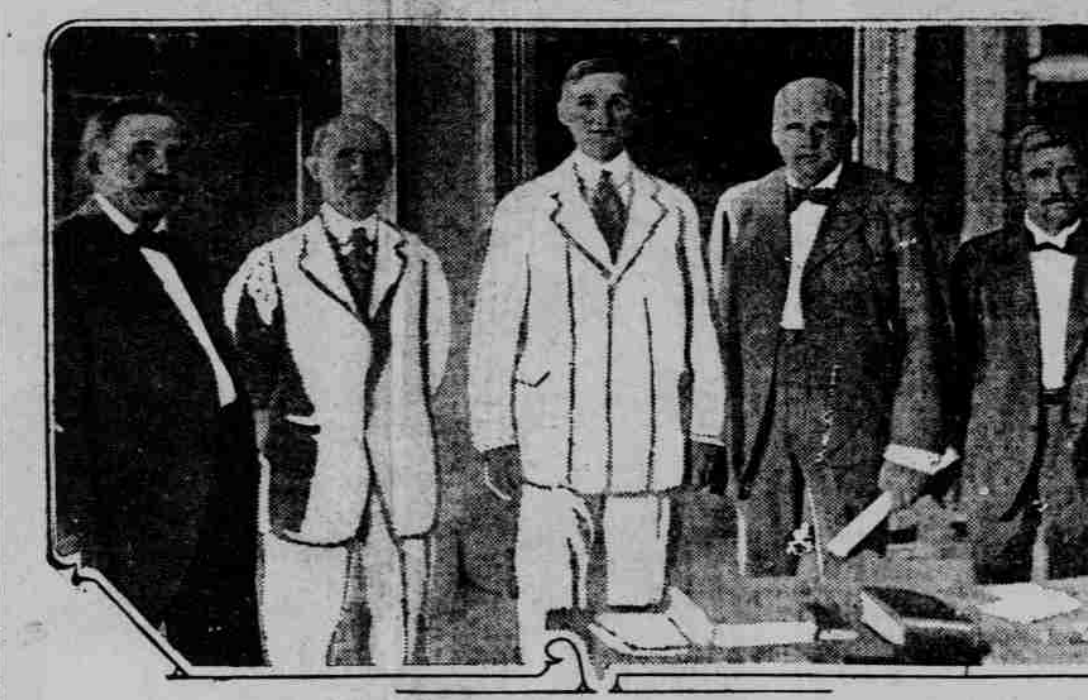
Twenty fast armored aeroplanes, each mounting three machine guns, one pointing forward and two downward, charged the German lines before the French infantry left their trenches.

Flying high above the charging air column were French aviation officers, who directed the attack below in the same manner that an officer directs an infantry charge from a sheltered dugout.

The French flyers swooped low over the German lines as the artillery lifted and raked the German trenches with murderous fire. Prisoners report that this form of attack had a remarkable effect upon the Germans who had survived the trenching and were awaiting in their half ruined trenches the coming storms of French infantry. It sent them flying in panic down communication trenches and in some instances caused machine gun companies to desert their posts.

As the French infantry came on with a rush, the air charges drove forward to the second phase of their work. They flew along the roads, turning their machine guns on German reserves being brought into action along the roads leading to Bouchevaines. This new use of aeroplanes proved so successful that it is expected to play a most important part in future operations of the infantry.

NATIONAL FARM LOAN BOARD IN TOPEKA TODAY



Left to right: C. E. Lobdell, George W. Norris, Secretary McAdoo, Herbert Quick and W. S. A. Smith.

CHURCHES HERE GIVE QUICKLY TO CLEVER SYRIAN

With One Hand He Begged for Charity Contributions

And With the Other He Made Deposits in Bank.

TOPEKA TOOK CARE OF FAMILY

First They Appeared at One Church, Then Another.

Carefully Instructed Children Wept for Congregations.

His name is Osama Otisho, and he has large, said Syrian eyes and a tongue that could wile any known variety of bird off any known species of shrubbery. He speaks several languages.

He is also a Swedish preacher of the Swedish Bethel denomination. At least he was when he spoke before the Rev. A. Liljengren's congregation last June—for the collection.

However, when he met the Rev. A. J. Ross his faith had changed to that of the German Methodist. He told the sorrow of Armenia to the congregation there with tears in eyes and voice and collected. The Rev. Ross gave him money and offered him a light suit for the summer weather. He accepted the first but declined the latter, saying that charity stirred more easily when he was attired in his clerical. The Rev. Ross became suspicious and Otisho left town.

He left his wife and three children who then had their innings. The next Sunday morning Mrs. Otisho appeared before Grace cathedral and told the incoming congregation a tale of woe and desertion. And her carefully instructed family wept. Many of the congregation responded in cash.

Canon Geisel, who has had long experience with the wily Syrians in New York settlement work was on the scene. He listened to the tale of woe and incidentally his ear caught the mother's hurried whisper in German to her 7-year-old daughter "not to tell the man anything."

Pending investigation the Provident association agreed to pay her rent which they have done for the greater part of the summer.

Toured Others Parts.
This morning a flood of letters arrived telling of Otisho's operations in other parts. He has successfully toured the small country churches in Oklahoma, North Dakota, Missouri and New York.

Charity never stepped more quickly than to the aid of the unfortunate Syrian minister of the Methodist Episcopal church, Swedish Bethel and a host of other denominational affiliations, all depending upon the generosity of the rural communities, and thus stimulating bank deposits.

Eliminate Broker's Profit.
"There is nothing intricate or obscure in the rural credits law," said Mr. Lobdell. "It is merely applying the mutual building and loan association plan which has built thousands of town homes all over the country. The system, when fully worked out, contemplates a country-wide mutual loan association, owned entirely by borrowers, and operated at actual cost with the element of bankers' profits entirely eliminated. It is under government supervision and is safeguarded as to afford an absolute safe investment, and at the same time give to the farm borrower the reduction in rates of interest that always goes with unquestioned security."

Equalize Rates.
"The results should be to equalize and stabilize farm loan rates with great tendency to reduction. As a country banker I can see no reason to complain of the measure. Anything that brings outside funds into rural communities for the betterment of its farms and the development of its agriculture, means more and better bank customers. It is essentially a home owner's and a home builder's proposition, as evidenced by the requirements that the borrower shall actually occupy and operate the rural premises. It is not available for speculative borrowing and this I regard as one of the soundest features of the law."

"The measure will not change human nature, nor make the shiftless man prosperous. If, as suggested before, it operates to equalize and stabilize rates, reduce tenantry, makes farm proprietorship easier, and on the whole, farm life a little more certain, cheerful and comfortable, it will have justified its enactment."

HELP TO WORTHY 8,000 CHILDREN ATTENDING FIRST SCHOOL CLASSES

Explanation of Rural Credits by Chas. E. Lobdell.

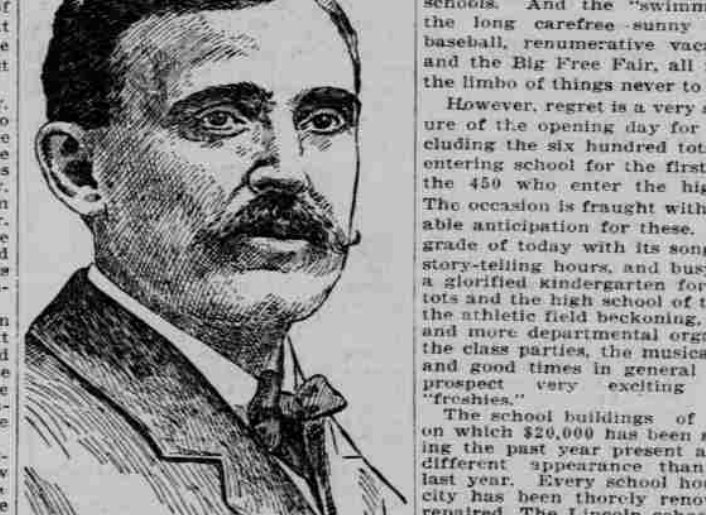
Farm Loans Won't Make the Shiftless Man Prosperous.

HOME OWNER AND BUILDER

Outside Funds Into Community for Farm Betterment.

Rural Proprietorship Will Be Easier as a Result.

Charles E. Lobdell, of Great Bend, Kan., member of the federal farm board, here today, says that the new rural credits legislation will not make the shiftless man prosperous, but will enable the worthy farmer to solve the problem of credit and thus make farm owning easier, farm prosperity more certain and farm life more comfortable.



Charles E. Lobdell, of Great Bend, member of Farm Loan Board.

Mr. Lobdell was a banker at Great Bend, Kan., but has moved to Washington with his family since his appointment. He believes the effort of the government in assembling capital and loaning it to the farmer at a low rate of interest will not injure the country banker, but will help him by adding to the prosperity of the rural communities, and thus stimulating bank deposits.

Eliminate Broker's Profit.
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RUSO-RUMANIA FORCES PUSHED BACK 50 MILES

Bulgar-German Army Stabbing at Heart of Rumania.

Centering Defense to Prevent Cutting Black Sea Liae.

SERBS SMASHING BULGARS

Meanwhile Rumanians Invading Hungary at Will.

Italians Score Telling Victory in 3-Day Battle.

Berlin, Sept. 18.—Russo-Rumanian forces already have retreated more than fifty miles from the Bulgarian frontier and are falling steadily back on the Cernavoda-Constanza line, where a great battle is expected. In an attempt to relieve the Teutonic pressure in Dobruja, the Rumanians are attacking in force at several places along the Austro-German front. At only one point, before Halitz, did the Russian attack meet with any success. The Rumanians have abandoned many guns in their hasty flight before Mackensen's forces. German airmen report that the Rumanians are hastily strengthening their lines south of the region of Montfalcone railway, whose capture would practically cut Rumania off from communication with Russia via the Black sea.

The Austro-Germans continue their pressure in central Transylvania but are holding their wings firmly against Rumanian attacks. The Rumanians have been unable to make any progress with their left wing since they occupied Orsova.

Break Down Austrian Defense.
Rome, Sept. 18.—The Italians have broken the Austrian third line in the region of Montfalcone after three days of fierce fighting.

On the whole front, from Goritz south to the sea, the new Italian drive on Trieste is proceeding satisfactorily. A whole series of Austrian positions, from Oppacchiasella southward thru the Carinthian mountains, have been carried and the Austrians driven back to their positions in the valleys. Advanced Italian lines are now within less than thirty miles of Trieste.

Heavy rain storms have interfered with the progress of the offensive, preventing aerial observation and thus impeding the artillery attack. But despite these obstacles Cadorna's men drove the enemy down the eastern slopes of Hills 144 and 208, also several other dominant positions, holding up the Italian advance along the Val Isère.

Serbs Get Revenge on Bulgars.
Saloniki, Sept. 18.—Serbian troops captured Bulgarian first and second lines at the village of Kamachalan, northwest of Ostrovo lake and near the Serbo-Greek frontier. It was officially announced today. Ten machine guns were captured.

Kalava Garrison Arrives.
Athens, Sept. 18.—The first boat load of Kalava garrison troops arrived here today. The men marched thru the streets cheering; King Constantine and crying:

"Down with the Bulgars!"

The demand for war is growing rapidly among the people. Even the anti-Venezelos party plans an active propaganda campaign which will be opened tomorrow.

Calls Out Greek Guards.
Athens, Saturday, via London, Sept. 18.—There was much excitement at British legation today when a Greek officer who applied for permission to go to Andros, feeling that he had not received the consideration due his rank, called out the Greek guard.

Tank Attack Fails.
Petrograd, Sept. 18.—via London.—"Attempts by the Turks to make an attack in the region of the village of Anassa, on the Caucasian front, were frustrated by our fire," says the official announcement issued here today. "On the western (Russian and Galician) fronts, there were no events of importance."

SON OF PREMIER DIES

Lieut. Raymond Asquith Does His Bit for England in Battle.

London, Sept. 18.—Lieut. Raymond Asquith, son of Premier Asquith, was killed in action on September 15. It was announced today.

Raymond Asquith, who was in his thirty-eighth year, was a graduate of Oxford, president of the Oxford Union and prominent as a member of the bar to which he was admitted in 1904. He acted as junior counsel for Great Britain in the case of the *Queen Mary* fisheries arbitrations at The Hague in 1909. He was made a second lieutenant in a County of London regiment in 1914, and lieutenant of the grenadiers in 1915.

Raymond Asquith was the eldest son of the premier. Two brothers, Lieut. Arthur Asquith, chief of the division reserve, and Lieutenant Herbert Asquith, were wounded in action at the Dardanelles in June, 1915.

COSTS MORE TO SMOKE

Cigars Are 5 and 10 Cents Straight Now in Kansas City.

Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 18.—The high cost of tobacco has been added to the high cost of living. Smokers today found the purchasing powers of their quarter dollar diminished. The "straight" cigar and its more aristocratic brother the ten center, will be sold at "straight" prices. The six and the three-for-a-quarter sales have been suspended.

WEATHER FORECAST for Kansas: Unsettled but generally fair tonight and Tuesday; rising temperatures.

TWO CENTS

SANTA FE OPENS BIG INDUSTRIAL CAMPAIGN HERE

Announcement in Topeka of Co-operative Seed Plan.

Furnish Farmers Best Grain for This Season's Planting.

WILL INCREASE WHEAT YIELD

New Life Into Seed by Transfer From One Field to Another.

Mills and Elevators Will Aid in Railway's New Move.

The Santa Fe railroad today fired the first gun in its Kansas industrial and agricultural development campaign. Announcement of a state-wide co-operative plan with several of the largest mills and elevators in Kansas to furnish farmers the best seed wheat available for planting was made. The plan will be put in operation for this fall's planting. H. M. Balner, agricultural and industrial agent for the Santa Fe, has arranged for a distribution to farmers of high class seed wheat in thirteen milling centers in the state. The distribution will be made on an exchange basis.

In this plan an effort will be made to increase the Kansas wheat yield per acre by injecting new life into the seed by transferring it from one place to another. Mr. Balner believes thousands of bushels of wheat should be exchanged under the plan. It is pointed out that while Kansas is a leading wheat state the yield per acre has much room to be increased.

Exchange Centers.
The exchange of wheat seed will be made in the following centers—more will be announced later—thru these mills and elevators:

Winfield. Alexander Milling company; distributors: Arkansas City, New Era mills; St. John, Kansas mills; Hainfield, McNair mills; Great Bend, Moses Bros.; Walnut Creek Milling company; Ellsworth, Wolf Milling company; Lyons, Lyons Milling company; Burlington, Lyons Milling company; Sterling, International Mills & Elevator company; Newton, Empire Milling company; Newton Milling & Elevator company; Newton Milling & Elevator company.

Mr. Balner is aiding in the selection of the seed wheat to be distributed. "It has long been a well known fact," he says, "that the seed wheat which is used once in a while, if grown only a few miles away, pays big. To exchange sandy land seed for hard land seed, always insures an improved quality as well as an increased quantity. Seed wheat that is especially adapted to the soil and climate of Kansas can now be secured slightly further west in the state."

Co-operative Movement.
A plan has been worked out thru which it is possible for wheat farmers in these districts to obtain first class seed on an exchange basis. In buying the seed, the farmer exchanges his own seed for the better seed. These mills are compelled to get (Continued on Page Six.)

DELAY BIG STRIKE

Conference Postpones Symptomatic Walkout in N. Y.

Unions Call on Mayor—Raids on Cars Continue.

New York, Sept. 18.—Threatened strikes by longshoremen, tidewater boatmen and other unions either in sympathy with the striking dockmen or after an appeal from the leaders of the street car men were delayed today, pending a conference of labor leaders to discuss the situation. The mayor said he called the conference at the request of the union men and that he did not know what they wanted to do with them.

One of those who were called in conference was President T. V. O'Connor of the Longshoremen's association.

Repeated attacks from roof tops were made on passing elevated trains during the early hours today. Stones and bottles crashed thru car windows and several passengers were injured. In the Bronx, a policeman was hurt while dispersing a crowd of strike sympathizers who were throwing bricks. Normal service on subway and elevated lines was being maintained today, according to police reports.

HEADQUARTERS OPEN

Campaign Directed From Kansas Reserve State Bank Building.

Campaign managers for the Republican state ticket started work in earnest today when an extra corps of stenographers and clerks were employed. The campaign headquarters work will be directed from the offices of the state committee, in the new Kansas Reserve State bank building, 524 Kansas avenue.

Charles H. Sessions, state chairman, will direct the work of the campaign. Both Sessions and W. Markham, secretary, will be on the job during the campaign. Speaking itineraries will be worked out this week and all available speakers will be used in the campaign beginning October 1.

Army Officer Dies Suddenly.
Washington, Sept. 18.—Major Gen. Albert L. Mills, chief of the division of militia affairs, died at his home here today after fifteen hours' illness from pneumonia.